

of Marin County, California. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

WELCH, L. E. 1977. Soil survey of Contra Costa County, California. U.S. Department of Agriculture, Soil Conservation Service, Washington, D.C.

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## NOTEWORTHY COLLECTIONS

### COLORADO

*POLEMONIUM CONFERTUM* A. Gray (POLEMONIACEAE).—Gunnison Co., Gunnison National Forest, 45.0 km N and 14.5 km E of Gunnison, in tundra and fellfield on summit of North Italian Mountain, T13S R84W S2, 38°55'N, 106°45'W, 4027 m, 19 July 1994, *R. Seagrist 569* (RMBL); Park Co., Buffalo Peaks Wilderness Area, Pike National Forest, 17.7 km N of Buena Vista, common along boulder-lined snow-melt streams on tundra-covered plateau 3.2 km NE of East Buffalo Peak summit, T12S R78W S22, 39°0'30"N, 106°5'W, 3780 m, 22 July 1995, *R. Seagrist 1008* and *K. Taylor 140* (RMBL, MO); Gunnison Co., Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness Area, White River National Forest, 22.5 km N and 4.0 km W of Crested Butte, intermittent in tundra and fellfield along dividing ridge between Hasley Basin and Fravert Basin, T11S R86W S30, 39°3'30"N, 107°2'W, 3856 m, 3 August 1995, *R. Seagrist 1133* (RMBL); Gunnison Co., Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness Area, White River National Forest, 20.9 km N and 2.4 km W of Crested Butte, intermittent in tundra and fellfield at Frigid Air Pass, T11S R86W S32, 39°3'N, 107°1'30"W, 3780 m, 13 August 1995, personal observation by R. Seagrist and K. Taylor; Gunnison Co., Maroon Bells-Snowmass Wilderness Area, White River National Forest, 22.5 km N of Crested Butte, in tundra and fellfield on Maroon Peak, T11S R86W S27, 39°4'3"N, 106°59'W, 3659 to 4316 m, 13 August 1995, personal observation by K. Taylor.

*Previous knowledge.* This species was first collected by Hall and Harbour (450) in 1862 from Jefferson Pass in Colorado's Mosquito Range and first described by Gray in 1864 (A. Gray, *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences, Philadelphia* 1863:73). Although some authorities regard *Polemonium confertum* as a variety of *P. viscosum* Nuttall, it is sufficiently distinct in several characters that it is considered to be a separate species by Brand (*Das Pflanzenreich* 250:44, 1907), Rydberg (*Flora of the Rocky Mountains and Adjacent Plains* 2nd ed., New York Botanical Garden, 1922), Wherry (*American Midland Naturalist* 27:741–760, 1942), Grant (*Botanical Gazette* 150(2):158–169, 1989), and Weber (*Colorado Flora: Eastern Slope*, Colorado Assoc. University Press, Boulder, 1990). Our field and herbarium observations agree with the above authorities that *P. confertum* is quite distinct. Our specimens have characteristics which meet the description of *P. confertum* provided by Grant (1989), including widely-spaced whorled leaflets, orange anthers, light blue corollas broadly funnelliform in shape with throats wider than 10 mm, and inflorescences 40–50 mm wide.

*Significance.* Our collections are the first from the Maroon Bells-Snowmass and Buffalo Peaks regions and extend the known range of this species considerably. Previously thought to be fairly rare, it appears that *P. confertum* is actually fairly common but grows in high elevation, hard-to-access habitats.

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